

## Pain-free Volunteers Needed

### **A Comparative Study of Quantitative Sensory Testing Profiles in Adults with Acute or Sub-acute Cervical Radiculopathy and Pain-Free Controls.**

This cross-sectional study will compare somatosensory (or pain sensitivity) profiles of patients with acute or sub-acute cervical radiculopathy (or a 'pinched' nerve in the vertebrae of the neck), with a group of age and gender-matched, pain-free adults.

Pain-free adult participants are now needed. Eligible participants will undergo a single 20-30 minute test session in the Human Movement Laboratory, School of Physiotherapy, RCSI, 123 St. Stephen's Green or in Premier Physiotherapy Clinic, Ballinteer, depending on what's most convenient for you. Patients with cervical radiculopathy are being recruited elsewhere through the [PACeR trial](#).

#### **To be eligible to participate, you must be:**

- 18 years or older (current matching range 30-75 years)
- Pain free in the last 6 months
- Fluent in spoken & written English

#### **You must not have/be:**

- A generalised neurological musculoskeletal or inflammatory disorder
- A history of migraine headache low back, neck, thoracic and / or limb pain within the last 6 months
- Diabetes, an endocrine disorder, epilepsy, or fibromyalgia.
- Psychiatric disorder e.g. anxiety or depression.
- Involved in litigation following an accident.

Pressure Pain Threshold (PPT) is measured using a computerised algometer that is used to measure pressure applied with a hand-held 1cm<sup>2</sup> probe. Participants will be asked to press a button at the moment when they become aware of discomfort accompanying the increasing pressure stimulus. 3 locations will be tested, including arms, neck and shin. This study has received ethical approval from the RCSI Research Ethics Committee.

If you're interested, please contact –

**Louise Keating, Lecturer in Physiotherapy, RCSI**

**E: [lkeating@rcsi.ie](mailto:lkeating@rcsi.ie)**

**T: 402 2259**